

1 Initiative Measure No. 609

filed August 22, 2013

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3 **Bring Back Our \$30 Car Tabs**

4 AN ACT Relating to limiting government-imposed charges relating
5 to motor vehicles; amending RCW 46.17.355; adding new sections to
6 chapter 46.17 RCW; repealing RCW 46.17.365 and 46.68.415; and creating
7 new sections.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

9
10 **POLICIES AND PURPOSES**

11
12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Vehicle owners have a right to \$30 tabs.
13 Voters have repeatedly approved \$30 tabs, yet state and local
14 politicians continually ignore the voters' repeated, unambiguous
15 mandate by unilaterally imposing higher and higher vehicle taxes and
16 fees to get around the voters' clear intent. \$30 means \$30. This
17 measure limits various government-imposed charges relating to motor
18 vehicles and requires voter approval for anything higher.

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2 **CAPPING MANDATORY VEHICLE LICENSE TAB FEES AT \$30 PER YEAR**
3 **(DOESN'T INCLUDE VOTER-APPROVED TAXES AND VOLUNTARY FEES)**
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5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 46.17
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 Mandatory vehicle license tab fees may not exceed \$30 per year
8 for motor vehicles, regardless of year, value, make, or model,
9 subject to the requirements of RCW 46.17.350. No vehicle owner is
10 legally obligated to pay more than \$30 per year for the sum of state
11 and local taxes and fees that make up the combined mandatory vehicle
12 license tab fee paid at the time of licensing or renewal.

13 (1) For purposes of this chapter, "mandatory vehicle license
14 tab fees" do not include:

15 (a) Voter-approved taxes and fees; and

16 (b) Voluntary state and local fees such as the extra fees for
17 specialized license plates.

18 In any jurisdiction which imposes a nonvoter-approved vehicle
19 fee, such as a transportation benefit district under RCW 36.73.065
20 or 82.80.140, the \$30 mandatory vehicle license tab fee required by
21 this section shall be reduced by the amount of any nonvoter-approved
22 vehicle fee.
23

24 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.17.355 and 2011 c 171 s 61 are each amended to
25 read as follows:

26 (1) In lieu of the vehicle license fee required under RCW
27 46.17.350 and before accepting an application for a vehicle
28 registration for motor vehicles described in RCW 46.16A.455, the
29 department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by
30 the director shall require the applicant, unless specifically
31 exempt, to pay the following license fee by gross weight:

WEIGHT	SCHEDULE A	SCHEDULE B
((4,000 lbs.))	\$ ((38.00))	\$ ((38.00))
<u>4,000 lbs.</u>	<u>30.00</u>	<u>30.00</u>
((6,000 lbs.))	\$ ((48.00))	\$ ((48.00))
<u>6,000 lbs.</u>	<u>30.00</u>	<u>30.00</u>
((8,000 lbs.))	\$ ((58.00))	\$ ((58.00))
<u>8,000 lbs.</u>	<u>30.00</u>	<u>30.00</u>
((10,000 lbs.))	\$ ((60.00))	\$ ((60.00))
<u>10,000 lbs.</u>	<u>30.00</u>	<u>30.00</u>
12,000 lbs.	77.00	77.00
14,000 lbs.	88.00	88.00
16,000 lbs.	100.00	100.00
18,000 lbs.	152.00	152.00
20,000 lbs.	169.00	169.00
22,000 lbs.	183.00	183.00
24,000 lbs.	198.00	198.00
26,000 lbs.	209.00	209.00
28,000 lbs.	247.00	247.00
30,000 lbs.	285.00	285.00
32,000 lbs.	344.00	344.00
34,000 lbs.	366.00	366.00
36,000 lbs.	397.00	397.00
38,000 lbs.	436.00	436.00
40,000 lbs.	499.00	499.00
42,000 lbs.	519.00	609.00
44,000 lbs.	530.00	620.00
46,000 lbs.	570.00	660.00
48,000 lbs.	594.00	684.00
50,000 lbs.	645.00	735.00
52,000 lbs.	678.00	768.00
54,000 lbs.	732.00	822.00
56,000 lbs.	773.00	863.00
58,000 lbs.	804.00	894.00
60,000 lbs.	857.00	947.00
62,000 lbs.	919.00	1,009.00
64,000 lbs.	939.00	1,029.00
66,000 lbs.	1046.00	1,136.00
68,000 lbs.	1091.00	1,181.00
70,000 lbs.	1175.00	1,265.00
72,000 lbs.	1257.00	1,347.00
74,000 lbs.	1366.00	1,456.00
76,000 lbs.	1476.00	1,566.00
78,000 lbs.	1612.00	1,702.00
80,000 lbs.	1740.00	1,830.00
82,000 lbs.	1861.00	1,951.00
84,000 lbs.	1981.00	2,071.00
86,000 lbs.	2102.00	2,192.00
88,000 lbs.	2223.00	2,313.00
90,000 lbs.	2344.00	2,434.00
92,000 lbs.	2464.00	2,554.00
94,000 lbs.	2585.00	2,675.00
96,000 lbs.	2706.00	2,796.00
98,000 lbs.	2827.00	2,917.00

100,000 lbs.	2947.00	3,037.00
102,000 lbs.	3068.00	3,158.00
104,000 lbs.	3189.00	3,279.00
105,500 lbs.	3310.00	3,400.00

(2) Schedule A applies to vehicles either used exclusively for hauling logs or that do not tow trailers. Schedule B applies to vehicles that tow trailers and are not covered under Schedule A.

(3) If the resultant gross weight is not listed in the table provided in subsection (1) of this section, it must be increased to the next higher weight.

(4) The license fees provided in subsection (1) of this section are ~~((in addition to the filing fee required under RCW 46.17.005 and any other fee or tax required by law))~~ subject to the requirements of section 2 of this act.

(5) The license fee based on declared gross weight as provided in subsection (1) of this section must be distributed under RCW 46.68.035.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The following acts or parts of acts are each repealed:

(1) RCW 46.17.365 (Motor vehicle weight fee – Motor home vehicle weight fee) and 2010 c 161 s 533; and

(2) RCW 46.68.415 (Motor vehicle weight fee, motor home vehicle weight fee – Disposition) and 2010 c 161 s 813.

THE RIGHT TO VOTE

Sec. 5. A new section to chapter 46.17 RCW is added and reads as follows:

Any increase in government-imposed charges relating to motor vehicles may not take effect unless voters approve the increase at the next general election.

Sec. 6. A new section to chapter 46.17 RCW is added and reads as follows:

Any increase in government-imposed charges relating to motor vehicles must be put to an advisory vote of the people at the next

general election. An advisory vote under this section is not required if the increase is subjected to a public vote under section 5 of this act.

MISCELLANEOUS

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The provisions of this act are to be liberally construed to effectuate the intent, policies, and purposes of this act.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** This act is called the "Bring Back Our \$30 Car Tabs Act."

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